

# Kirklees Communities Partnership

2018 - 2021

2020 Refresh



## Kirklees Partnership Plan Refresh – October 2020

### Forward – Cllr Pattison

As Chair of the Communities Board and Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspirations and Communities, it is my pleasure to introduce the refreshed Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan. This Plan identifies the key strategic challenges to make Kirklees a better place to live, work, visit and study.

The purpose of the Communities Partnership Board is to make sure that people throughout Kirklees live in communities where they get along, are safe, and experience clean and high-quality neighbourhoods.

It is important that we continue to engage residents and build relationships based on trust, working with people and communities to solve problems to give them better control of their lives. Our approach of People, Place and Partners is vital to this as is our effective engagement and collaborative working with multi-agencies such as the Police, Council, Housing providers, the Voluntary and Community Sector and local elected members. It is essential that our approach places communities at the heart of delivery, listening and working with communities to increase their confidence and resilience.

We are fortunate that here in Kirklees our communities are predominately caring and compassionate towards one another. The coronavirus outbreak in 2020 has had, and continues to have, a devastating impact on our residents across the district but it has brought out the very best in people. From the thousands who offered to volunteer as part of the community response, to those who went the extra mile to protect the vulnerable in their communities, it has made me proud of Kirklees and its residents.

On behalf of the Communities Board, I would like to recognise the excellent work that has been undertaken to improve residents' quality of life and we all know we must continue to work hard if we are to tackle all forms of inequality. I look forward to seeing the work continue to improve neighbourhoods and safeguard vulnerable citizens.



Cllr Carole Pattison

Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspirations and Communities.



## **About the Partnership Plan**

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act and other subsequent legislation places a statutory duty on Community Safety Partnerships to develop a strategic plan which addresses multi-agency issues affecting quality of life for residents.

The Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan 2018 – 2021 outlines the key strategic priorities for Kirklees. These include:

- Preventing and Reducing Crime
- Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Protecting People from Serious Harm
- Improving the Place

The Partnership Plan is updated on an annual basis to ensure priorities remain fit for purpose and this update has become more relevant in 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The refreshed plan recognises the impact Coronavirus has had upon our data and intelligence, service delivery and inequalities within communities. The changing landscape of the pandemic with local and national restrictions requires the Kirklees Partnership to be agile, be able to adapt and respond quickly within the context of addressing inequality and building resilience

For each of the strategic priorities and subsequent themes within the plan, action plans are in place to detail multi-agency interventions along with more specific performance measures for each area. Delivery of these are scrutinised and supported through the governance arrangements outlined at the end of this document and the Kirklees Communities Board.

The priorities within this plan are informed through insight from Public Health Information and an in-depth analysis of data from a range of community safety agencies which are contained in the Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment for Kirklees. An executive summary of the most recent Kirklees Strategic Intelligence Assessment is set out in the next section.

## **Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment – October 2020**

The purpose of the PSIA is to provide an up to date picture of the current issues impacting on Communities in Kirklees in terms of their safety and the environment they live within. This picture is used to inform a Communities Partnership Plan which tackles the main themes – these are currently Reducing Crime, Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour, Protecting People from Serious Harm and Improving Place. This PSIA has a particular focus on the impact of COVID19 on Communities and the disproportionate impact this has had on more deprived communities in the District, a pattern which reflects the national picture.

The next section of the Partnership Plan provides an overview of the key findings from the PSIA under the 4 strategic themes.

## **Reducing Crime**

In the 12 months up to September 2020, overall crime has reduced by 10% - whilst it did reduce slightly in the first half of this period, the significant reduction was over the Coronavirus lockdown period.

Trends did vary by offence type with the most significant reductions in areas where opportunities were also reduced (for example shop theft / those associated with the night time economy) and where there was increased informal surveillance by people being at home (burglary). There were however increases in areas such as stalking / harassment and crimes involving online platforms.

The experiences of Kirklees are similar to those in other areas and consequently Kirklees has remained broadly in line with the average levels of recorded crime of other similar areas. Results from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (August 2020<sup>1</sup>) provide an insight into experiences of crime during lockdown show a similar picture for those evident in Kirklees and perceptions of the Police very favourable.

## **Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour**

The lockdown period saw an increase in anti-social behaviour with a 6% increase in **nuisance complaints** particularly relating to off road motor cycles. People being at home for longer periods of time has both improved neighbourliness but also has increased reports of **personal ASB** where there have been ongoing issues. In terms of **environmental ASB**, there has been an increase in fly-tipping – in part to do with new ways of recording but also due to an actual increase – particularly whilst the recycling centres were closed and people were decluttering their houses.

**Urban Street Gangs** – since the team formed in July 2017, there have been over 240 referrals for individuals (predominantly teenage males) mainly from wards around North Huddersfield.

The number of people killed and seriously injured in **Road Traffic Collisions** in Kirklees continues to reduce – less traffic during lockdown further reduced these figures. Vulnerable road users such as cyclists, pedestrians and children continue to be an area of concern to retain focus on.

## **Protecting People from Serious Harm**

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2020>

National estimates suggest that **Domestic Abuse** is experienced by around 25% of women and 15% of men. The number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police (and DRAMM and MARAC referrals) over lockdown was broadly similar to the levels recorded the previous year – this is probably associated with under reporting and Covid related changes in front line working reducing opportunities to spot potential abuse. In contrast, Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership did see an increase in referrals which at times put some of the strain on accommodation (including refuge spaces and temporary accommodation).

Levels of recorded **Hate Crime** have increased (by 11%) over the lockdown period compared with the previous year. The majority of incidents (76%) related to Race – a recent report from Victim Support highlighted a 62% increase in hate crime referrals nationally. This report concluded that this was in part attributable to more people coming forward as a result of increased awareness following publicity of the Black Lives Matter movement over the summer. In Kirklees, incidents were mainly neighbour related or not involve direct contact such as threats, harassment and malicious communications.

The number of new referrals for children at risk of **Criminal Exploitation** reduced during lockdown primarily due to restricted free movement but also because of the closure of schools and changes in service delivery of some partners meaning that early indicators of risk might not have been picked up / reported. In the case of Child Sexual Exploitation, cases are either historic or current with abuse often co-ordinated through organised groups or grooming on social media platforms such as Facebook.

Cases of **Human Trafficking** and **Modern-Day Slavery** can be both international or within the UK to facilitate a range of offences including forced labour, sexual abuse or criminal exploitation such as transportation of drugs. The number of offences were relatively stable over lockdown although it is recognised that there are significant levels of under reporting.

**Prevent** – the overall counter terrorism threat rating reduced in the last year to substantial. The main risks currently are from Daesh / Al Qaida inspired groups and the extreme right-wing groups. Threats are seen to be from both organised groups and lone actors using easily accessible objects such as knives / vehicles. Channel referrals have reduced significantly and continue to be evenly distributed between non-ideological, Islamic, extreme right wing and those with no particular ideology.

## **Improving Place**

In response to the need to support vulnerable people with essential supplies during the lockdown period, over 140 community led mutual aid groups and nearly 1,500 volunteers came forward in a massive display of **community mobilisation**. Having

said this, Coronavirus has caused worry and some tensions around inconsistent rule following and adherence to social distancing.

Coronavirus has highlighted the significant risks posed to people seeking **asylum and refugees** as particularly vulnerable to issues such as language barriers to understanding restrictions, financial difficulties, digital exclusion, safeguarding issues (such as modern-day slavery and domestic abuse) and lockdown measures restricting the availability of some support services.

The latest **Perceptions** survey took place just before lockdown and showed a slightly improving feelings of safety, satisfaction, and agreement that “people from different backgrounds” get on together. During lockdown, an online “community conversation” showed people were generally “coping well” and a comprehensive survey from KNH found people’s main priorities were good quality housing and environments.

**Drugs and Alcohol** - The PSIA refresh identifies the 5 most harmful substances as alcohol, heroin, crack cocaine, methamphetamine and cocaine which can impact on individuals, families, and communities in both the immediate and longer term. Lockdown has seen increased levels of substance misuse, with prices of drugs increasing and purity decreasing. Treatment services have adapted to remote working and have contacted more people although the suspension of courts impacted on the use of drugs rehabilitation orders.

## Overview and review of Strategic Themes – October 2020

The analysis of multi-agency data through the Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA) should continue to inform the strategic outcome themes which provide the focus and direction for the Partnership Plan. Based upon the refreshed PSIA, the themes within the Partnership Plan remain **current** and **unchanged** but have been **refreshed** to consider the updated intelligence and the unprecedented times our partners and communities now face. This next section provides an overview of each of these themes and the key performance indicators.

It should be noted that based upon the current PSIA, a number of areas within these themes are cross cutting and have been highlighted under a particular theme for the purpose of coordination.

## Preventing and Reducing Crime

Within this area, preventing and reducing crime covers the following key themes;

- Crime
- Reducing Re-offending, and
- Drugs and Alcohol

The lack of opportunity for certain crime types to take place due local and national restrictions because of the Coronavirus pandemic i.e. closing of shops, more people being at home, has meant that some crime types have reduced. We are aware that due to services being closed or paused for periods of time because of Coronavirus and through a reduced number people being out within communities, that this may have resulted in a lack of reporting or support for those at risk or involved in criminal activities i.e. through the court system being closed.

Our work on **crime** will therefore continue to focus on personal crime (e.g. violence and robbery) and property offences (e.g. burglary and vehicle offences) and in common with other areas in this plan, should continue to focus on prevention and reducing opportunities for crime by focusing on the people (offender and victim) and targeting places where crimes are concentrated.

**Reducing the likelihood of Re-Offending** is a key element within the crime theme and moving forward have a closer working relationship to our violence reduction activity and tackling serious violence. Our work to reduce Re-Offending will continue to have a particular focus on two key areas;

- Preventing individuals from entering the Criminal Justice System
- Supporting individuals in the Criminal Justice System to reduce the frequency and severity of further offending with the aim of abstinence from recidivism.

Our work on crime and the relationship between **Drugs and Alcohol** interventions relate to the use and supply of drugs and alcohol

### **What will we do?**

- Be flexible and adapt our approach to preventing and reducing crime in response to the Coronavirus pandemic and local restrictions, which may affect people's ability to commit, report crime or find support
- Focus on crime prevention through tactics including increased awareness, target hardening and secured by design approaches.
- Increased deterrent presence in emerging hot spots through deployment of partnership staff and community resources including neighbourhood watch.
- Offender focus through the delivery of the reducing reoffending strategy
- Strong emphasis on victim focused working to repair harm
- Development of a Kirklees Drugs and Alcohol Strategy that acknowledges the impact substance misuse has across all 4 themes within the Partnership Plan
- Broaden our work with the night-time economy to reduce alcohol related violence and irresponsible sales considering the impact of local restrictions placed upon pubs and bars
- Continue to work with offender management services to tackle drug related crime
- Develop links with health providers to address long term harm of drugs and alcohol

## Overview of outcome measures

### Property Crime

- Reduction in residential burglary and vehicle crime (in comparison to similar areas in IQUANTA family).
- Improved perceptions concerning fear of crime

### Personal Crime

- Reduction in serious violent offences (in comparison to similar areas in IQUANTA family).

### Reducing Re-offending

- To reduce reoffending through the Reducing Re-Offending plan, tackling areas known to impact on offending

### Drugs & alcohol

- To reduce demand, restrict supply and build recovery through the delivery of the Kirklees Drugs & Alcohol strategy

## Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

For the purpose of the Partnership Plan, the tackling Anti-Social Behaviour theme covers the following key priorities:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Tackling Serious Violence
- Road Safety

**Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)** is defined as behaviour which causes “harassment, alarm or distress” to individuals and communities. ASB can be broken into the following 3x categories:

- Personal ASB (e.g. neighbour noise, threats and intimidation)
- Nuisance ASB (e.g. rowdy behaviour and speeding vehicles) and
- Environmental (e.g. graffiti, litter and fly-tipping).

ASB can be directed at individual, the wider community and tends to be concentrated in particular locations (increasingly including the internet). Where ASB is not addressed, it tends to have a serious negative impact on wellbeing in communities and can often escalate in severity to serious and or gang violence.

### What will we do?

Through the delivery of the Kirklees ASB Strategy and Violence Reduction Partnership there will be a focus on preventing and reducing ASB and serious violence/ gang affiliation through;



- Be flexible and adapt our approach to tackling ASB in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, working with partners to address issues as they arise. i.e. large gatherings and groups and breach of restrictions
- Education interventions to develop responsible citizenship throughout people's lives
- Community Engagement to ensure ASB is not tolerated and is tackled through active citizenship
- Training and development for front line officers and community contacts to ensure they have the knowledge to identify risk factors at the earliest opportunity
- Effective use of tools and powers and area-based problem-solving approaches to address persistent ASB, Gang / serious violence
- Development of the Kirklees Violence Reduction Partnership and Public Health approach to tackle serious violence in Kirklees including engagement in identified areas
- Developing effective links to ensure a coordinate response to those individuals that move from acts of ASB into serious violence and Organised Crime Groups (OCGs)
- Effective links to more specialist services to deal with underlying issues such as mental health and substance misuse
- Where necessary, efficient, and effective prosecution to ensure people are held to account for their actions and to provide a message that such behaviours will not be tolerated

## **Outcome Measures**

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

- Increased perceptions of levels and response to ASB (% of people who say ASB has got worse in past 12 months).
- Increased satisfaction from victims of ASB in management of cases (vs previous 12 months)

### **Serious violence**

- A reduction in hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp among those victims aged under 25;
- A reduction in knife-enabled serious violence especially among those victims aged under 25;
- A reduction in the number of school exclusions linked to serious violence

### **Road Safety**

- Continued reduction in road casualties in Kirklees, focusing on cyclists and motorbikes.

## **Protecting people from serious harm**

This theme covers a wide range of areas which all require strong relationships between community safety / safeguarding partners and communities to identify and address serious harm at the earliest opportunity, ideally by preventing it in the first place. For the purpose of this plan this theme includes;

- Exploitation, including criminal and child sexual exploitation
- Domestic Abuse
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Forced Marriage
- Hate crime
- Modern Slavery
- Preventing Violent Extremism
- Community Tensions

We are aware that Coronavirus and the subsequent local and national restrictions have resulted in a drop in referrals for many of the areas highlighted above and the true picture is still relatively unknown. However, our partnership engagement to share key Public Health messages with communities has provided an opportunity for front line staff to engage in communities identifying and uncovering potential potentially hidden issues. Through our increased discussions with partners and the community around Coronavirus it remains important to have excellent partnership co-ordination to protect victims and disrupt perpetrators as rigorously as possible.

### **What will we do?**

- Adapt our approach utilising our Coronavirus Public Health engagement work within communities to raise awareness and increase reporting based upon threat, risk and harm
- Focus on prevention through a combination of education / awareness of risk and communicating a clear message about partnership work with communities.
- Working with communities to improve victim confidence to report issues and improve general awareness of the signs of possible harm.
- Comprehensive and co-ordinated training for front line workers to have the awareness of what to report and the confidence and drive to take responsibility for reporting issues.
- Effective operational links between partners to ensure there is effective case management in place both to ensure offenders are held to account for their actions and victims are appropriately safeguarded.
- Strategic links in place between Community Safety Partners and the Safeguarding Boards for adults and children to ensure joined up approach is in place.
- Development of a clear and robust referral pathway for partners and front-line officers to raise concerns of significant harm with children and young people to ensure that risk and vulnerability are addressed through effective cooperation and partnership working between agencies and services.

- Review the Kirklees community tensions process to ensure we are receiving community-based tensions from community sources in a timely manner to reduce the local impact.

## **Outcome Measures**

### **Domestic Abuse**

- Reduce prevalence in domestic abuse by supporting victims and holding perpetrators to account
- Increased awareness of communities and staff to spot signs and how to refer to appropriate interventions to reduce future domestic abuse.

### **Hate Crime**

- Reduce prevalence in hate crime by supporting victims and holding perpetrators to account.
- Increased awareness of communities and staff to spot signs and how to refer to appropriate interventions to reduce future hate crime.

### **Modern Day Slavery**

- Increased awareness of communities and staff to recognise and report signs of modern-day slavery to increase number of cases identified for support.

### **Prevent**

- Reduce threat of extremism through the delivery of the Prevent plan, to safeguard and support those vulnerable to radicalisation.

## **Improving Place**

Place based working is one of the core elements of the Councils Corporate Plan. It is based on the view that citizens and communities are best placed to know their own local challenges and strengths. The development of mutual aid groups in 2020 to support vulnerable and isolated residents and communities, without the intervention of statutory agencies has demonstrated how communities can come together and tackle local issues. Feeling safe is consistently identified as one of the most important priorities for residents to enhance their quality of life and we will continue to develop our relationships with anchor and community groups to develop community safety initiatives and confidence in within local areas. If we are to develop interventions that are sustainable and take account of what works locally, it is vital that local people and places are at the heart of our approach to building community resilience.

In terms of the physical appearance, often seemingly lower level issues can indicate the general decline of a neighbourhood, and typically, there is an escalation into more serious issues. Therefore, if issues such as graffiti, fly-tipping and litter do not get addressed, not only will it make an area look uncared for, it can also serve as a signal that residents don't care and acts as a barrier for any participation in neighbourhood involvement.

A cohesive and resilient Kirklees is one where there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities and where the diversity of people's different

backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated. Those from different backgrounds (including those who have migrated to Kirklees from overseas) should have similar life opportunities where strong and positive relationships are developed.

### What will we do?

Areas of work in this theme to be delivered are;

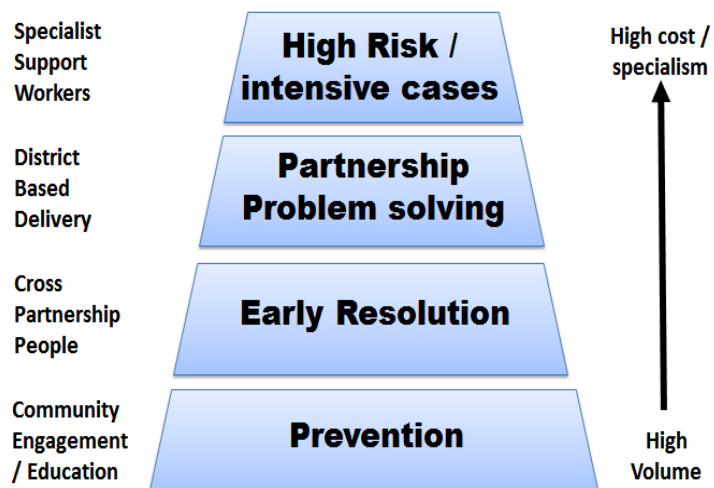
- Work collectively to secure good quality Housing and Neighbourhoods
- Coordinate activity to maintain and improve high standards in street scene provision (clean & green)
- Work in partnership, linking with the Kirklees Loneliness strategy to provide opportunities for community connectedness, and coordinate intergenerational work, breaking barriers at a young age and perceptions of unfairness
- Continue to develop our work to tackle all form of inequality and deprivation and the community safety impact this has on people and communities
- Lead on collaborative work to ensure the successful resettlement of Syrian migrants in Kirklees
- Using an asset-based approach, work in partnership with the voluntary and community sector to ensure communities are at the heart of design and delivery

### Outcome Measures

- People in Kirklees live in cohesive communities, feel safe and are safe/protected from harm to include;
  - Kirklees respondents who say they felt safe
  - Kirklees respondents who said they felt people get on well together
- People in Kirklees experience a high quality, clean, sustainable and green environment to include;
  - Kirklees respondents who said they were satisfied with their local area
  - Kirklees respondents who said they felt their area is “better now”

## Action / Delivery Models

The Kirklees approach to creating safer communities is based on the principle that the best way to tackle community safety issues and reduce the fear of crime is to prevent issues happening in the first place and where they do occur address them at the earliest opportunity before they become more difficult to tackle and harmful to individuals and communities. Our approach now also considers our approach to tackling and responding to the Coronavirus pandemic



The following section outlines each of these levels.

## **Prevention**

Prevention can be focused on individuals and communities and involves changing behaviours both through education and engagement.

**Education** – General and targeted educational input with priority given to children and young people to develop the concept of lifetime responsible citizenship

**Community Engagement** – Engaging and supporting communities in tackling community safety issues by moving them from lacking confidence or skills through to active and involved citizenship.

**Communications** – Ensure members of the public and stakeholders are kept regularly informed of the work that is being undertaken by the Communities Partnership. We will communicate through a wide variety of channels including traditional media, publicity materials, social media and perhaps most importantly, key messages delivered through trusted voices. The Partnership recognises the central role elected members play in communication with members of their communities.

## **Early Resolution**

This tier of the Community Safety approach involves partnership officers, local communities and other stakeholders taking ownership for reporting and tackling crime and ASB where it occurs.

Addressing these low-level signal crimes is vital to improving perceptions in local areas as they are often associated with fear of crime. It is critical that there is a broad understanding of techniques such as restorative justice and neighbourhood resolution to tackle issues as soon as possible.

## **Partnership Problem Solving**

Where community safety issues are more entrenched either on an individual or geographic level, it is important an intelligence led partnership problem solving approach is used to identify the most appropriate solution including using ASB tools and powers.

## **High risk / Intensive Cases**

This involves dealing with a smaller volume of more costly cases which have not been addressed at an earlier stage. These cases will be harder to resolve and are likely to be more complex in terms of underlying issues (such as mental health and drugs / alcohol) or require individuals to be held to account for their actions through enforcement and prosecution.

Quite often these issues require longer term approaches to address them – they often relate to a small number of recurrent families and areas which don't seem to "move on".

## **Applying the Community Safety Model**

For each of the 4 tiers, partners and other stakeholders will use multi-agency intelligence to develop interventions which target one or more element of the traditional Problem Analysis Triangle of Victim, Offender and Location (including virtual locations via the internet) to tackle community safety problems.

In applying this approach, interventions will consider risk and protective factors which make individuals and locations at heightened risk of community safety problems and need managing.

Consequently, there is a strong focus on promoting behaviour change through the delivery of the Kirklees reducing re-offending strategy by addressing a range of risk factors including drugs and alcohol.

To deliver safer communities in a sustainable and effective way, it is critical that partners and elected members are working in an integrated way to solve shared problems. More important still to sustainable solutions is our relationship with communities as it is critical that local people are at the core of creating safer communities.

## **Governance and Delivery**

It is vital that stakeholders and communities are fully engaged and actively involved in delivering this plan if we are to achieve our aim of developing Kirklees as a better place to live, work, visit and study. As we continue to develop our restorative approach in the way we work we will provide high challenge and high support to enable and encourage Kirklees citizens to do more for themselves, become resilient and become more independent.

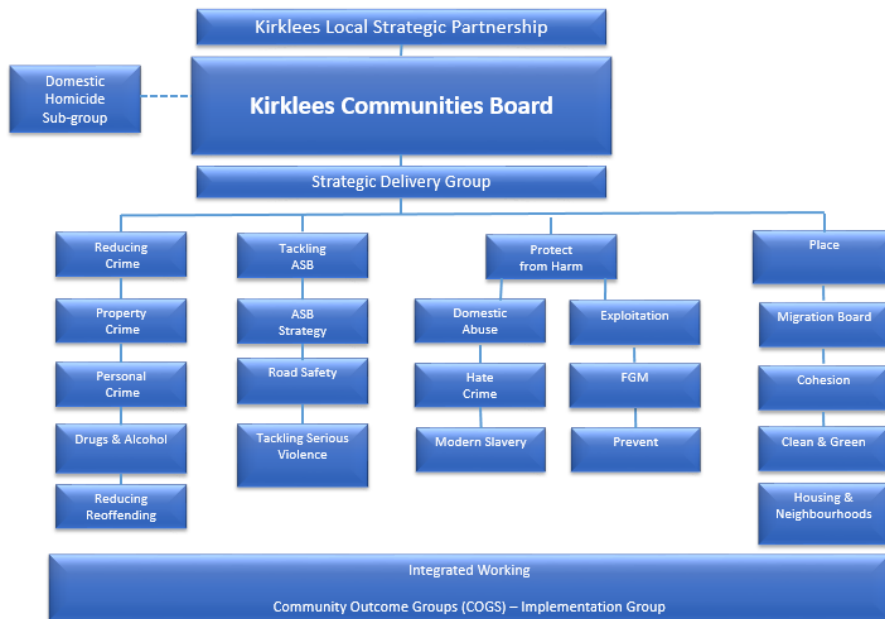
The Communities Partnership Board fulfils the statutory duty of the Community Safety Partnership for Kirklees but also has responsibility for cohesion, integration and for high quality, clean, sustainable green environments.

The board, which is elected member led, oversees the implementation of the Partnership Plan, and works with other strategic boards to address shared strategic issues through the Local Strategic Partnership for Kirklees. The Strategic Delivery Group sits under the Communities Board and provides appropriate challenge and support for the delivery of each of the action plans including diverting resources to thematic areas within the Partnership Plan. In addition to these channels, there is also a mechanism whereby the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the implementation of the Community Partnership plan. The Communities Board is aware of the need to continue to refresh the partnerships accountability and has highlighted its intent to review the current arrangements in light of the Coronavirus pandemic.

We will ensure we continue to maintain our close working relationships across West Yorkshire and nationally with key partners such as the Office for the Police Crime Commissioner and Home Office to ensure there is strategic alignment between policies and priorities and to ensure the sharing of best practice.

# Overview of Communities Board Governance Arrangements

## Communities Board - Governance Structures



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